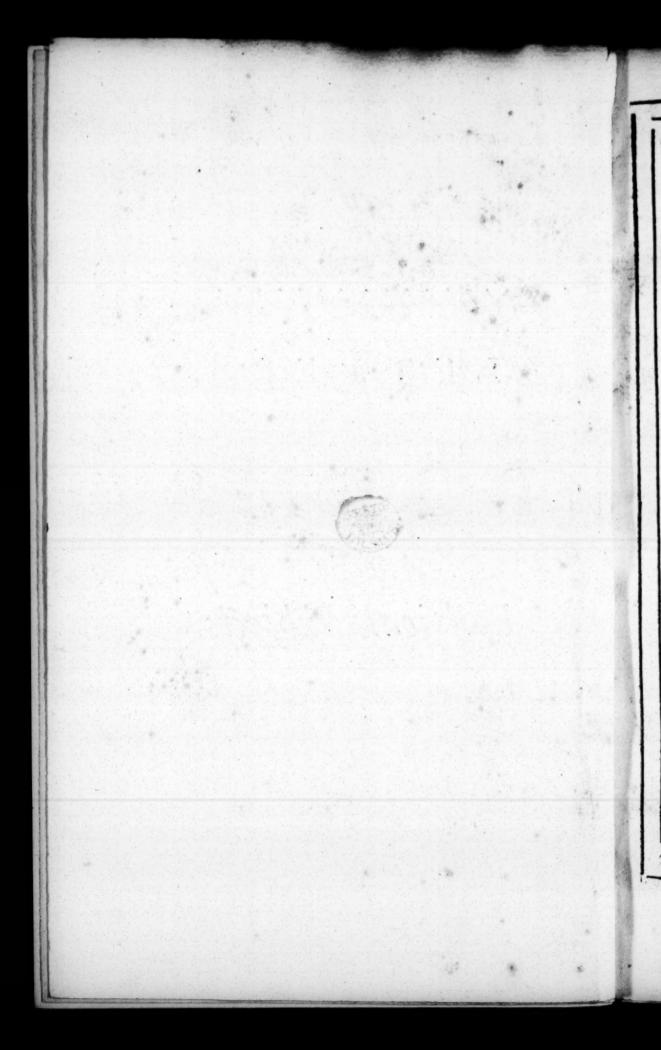
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LETTERS AND POEMS

O N
Political Subjects.





5LETTERS

AND

POEMS

ON

Political Subjects.

Witten by a hearty WHIG, and Dedicated to the Earl of Oxford.

Volvitur varios semper Nobis, Metuenda Dies.



LONDON:

Printed for R. Burleigh, in Amen Corner, and A. Dodd, without Temple-Bar. 1716. 18. Jan.

Price Six-Pence.

E.H.T.L.H.J.



TO THE

Right HONOURABLE

ROBERT,

Earl of Oxford and Mortimer.

My LORD,



IS with inexpressible Pleasure I congratulate your Lordship

on the prudent Care the Go-VERNMENT has been pleas'd B to

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to take of your Person; to which indeed the whole World must allow, no One could plead a greater Merit; and it affords me equal Delight to observe, that not a Mortal fo much as grumbles at your Condition: Nor is it, Heavens be prais'd! in the Power of the Enemies of your Country to take you from that Ancient Seat you fo well become; but there you are fure to continue enjoying the greatest Retirement, without the least fear of Molestation, till the same wife Hand that put you in Possession of it, shall likewife think fit, contrary to

your own modest Inclinations, to give the finishing Stroke, and remove you yet higher, which we have now good Reason to hope will be very speedily. In the mean while, I wish your Lordship the most perfect Health imaginable, to the End, that Nothing may hinder your foaring Mind from meditating on former Actions, together with what will be the certain and eternal Confequences of 'em; and if the Present I now make you, tend in any Measure to assist you in this Respect, as 'twill afford me a most sensible Satisfaction, so it will directly \mathbf{B}_{2} quadrate

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My Lord,

I HERE present you with no more than what you have an indisputable Title to; and I will do myself the justice to tell you, That I no sooner determin'd to publish the following Collection, than I resolv'd to dedicate it to Him, whose Conduct, when in the highest Station, was the sole Cause of my turning my Thoughts to such Sort of Compositions.

Your Lordship's Fame having rung throughout all Europe,

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Europe, it will not be tho't incredible, if I say, I never set my Foot within a Coffee-House for several Years successively, but I heard That of you which gave sufficient Occasion to a Lover of LIBERTY to produce something of this Kind; nor will I deny, that the best Part of the following Pieces, had their Birth in those Places.

I NEED not tell your Lordship, That they were most of them printed at different Times, in the Weekly Papers (whose Fate it generally is to live but one Day) or that there were several others

others not here inserted; I shall only inform you, That instead of heaping up all those minute Performances together, some of which being already otherwise disposed of, I have chosen rather to trouble your Lordship with a few select Ones, compos'd both in the last and the present Reign, by which you may be able to compare Things together; and also to perceive that the Author no more fear'd Greatness in the worst of Times, than he courts it now in the best. And I confess, had one's Soul been tainted with this last Principle, I mean,

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mean, that of inordinately feeking after more than the Necessaries of Life, a Man could never wish for a better Prospect of succeeding, than when he had an Opportunity of making his Application. to the Earl of Oxford, who was always known to be no less willing than able to encourage the meanest Instrument that gave undoubted Evidence of his Readiness to engage in the same Cause, which he himself so strenuously espous'd, and so ingeniously carry'd on.

I AM now to beg your Lordship's Pardon for my Pre-

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Presumption in offering these Trisles to your perusal, and to assure you, that is That be granted me, as no Man breathing has more Reason to be uneasy at any Thing therein than yourself, so I shall not be anxious about it if any One should, being entirely,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's, &c.



LETTERS

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LETTERS

AND

POEMS

ON

Political Subjects.



SIR,

Octob. 20. 1712.



fhall take an Occasion to detract from the Character of the great General; as heretofore they have had the Impudence to do; please to stop their ungrateful Mouths with the fol-

lowing Lines, which are an Imitation of Madam des Houlliere's Madrigal on the French King. You may in any Cafe (if you think fit) give them a Place in your Paper, in order to furnished.

ERS

nish your Readers with the same Expedient upon the like Provocation; by which you will at the same time oblige,

Your Humble Servant.

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THE Hero's of Antiquity
Could not with modern Hero's vie;
They, like the Swallows, did pursue
The chearful Spring's refreshing Dew;
Nor could they conquering Battles trace
Whilst Hyems shew'd his hideous Face.
But we can of a Hero boast,
Who, maugre Snow, and spite of Frost,
Can at all Times and Seasons be
A Conqueror, Great MARLBROW's He.

To a celebrated * Author, on his lashing the Examiner.

WHEN one base Wretch, to gain the vile Applause

Of more base Patrons, banters Virtue's Cause; Pleads hard for Slavery, against Freedom writes, Explodes our Civil and Religious Rights; And strives in gaining of a little Pelf, To ruin others, whilst he damns himself;

^{*} Sir Richard Steele.

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How could a Pen like thine less Courage show,
Than to stand up against this common Foe?
With Joy we read thee, and with Pleasure must;
Friend to the Fair, the Brave, the Learn'd, the
Just:

Go on, to let thy injur'd Country see
They've yet one Champion lest for Liberty;
And as thy Soul abhors to flatter Vice,
Or buy Court Favours at so dear a Price,
Fear not to act the honest English Part,
Speak out and make the hired Scribbler smart:
Thy Cause is good, thy Genius matchless too,
And that deserves what this alone can do.

KENKENKENKENKENKENKENKEN

Decemb. 5. 1713.

Aving lately fent you a few Lines on the best of Authors, I've now likewise tried my Talent on the worst, which if you approve, you may do as by the former; if not, I don't doubt but you will attribute their Dulness to my Muse's good Nature (as delighting more in Panegyrick than Satyr) and conceal them out of Respect to,

Your Humble Servant.

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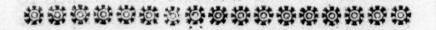
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On the Examiner.

And on thy Readers thus impose no more;
Think it enough, in This we all agree,
Tho' bad thy Cause, thou well deserv'st thy Fee:
Once an abandon'd Wretch dar'd to betray
His Lord and Master, and 'twas too for Pay;
But he, struck with Remorse, his Guilt cou'd own,
And for the Fact that he might then atone,
Excus'd Jack Ketch, and hang'd himself alone.
What heretosore he could directly do,
Obliquely now, and with more Malice too,
Dost thou perform; nor is our Wonder great,
Since as the Sin so the Parama's complete.

Since as thy Sin, so thy Reward's compleat.
But when, with Shame opprest, thou dost as he,
Thy Crime is worse, then more ingenuous be;
Let us but know, and we will gladly see.



SIR,

Feb. 18. 1713.

Appening lately to meet with an Epigram, written in French, and finding it to affect every honest Man in Great-Britain, I could not forbear giving it a Translation; which when I had done, I could no more help thinking my

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felf obliged to get it publish'd. As the two Persons first hinted at, appear plainly enough to be the Cardinals Richlieu and Mazarine, fo I believe a Reader of no great Penetration will be able to guess at the other. And tho' I am willing to hope our Condition is not quite fo bad as 'tis there represented, yet since it lets us know what Assurance the Enemies to our Queen and Country feem to have of gaining their Ends, I am certain you won't do amiss, if you allow it a Place in your Paper, in order to awaken your poor Countrymen out of that Lethargy which has for a long time possess'd them; and by pointing out the Danger that so apparently hangs over their Heads, inspire em with Thoughts of preserving their Liberty and Religion.

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The EPIGRAM.

Three famous Statesmen serv'd the Crown of France,

All fought one End --- their Fortunes to advance; Great Pillars of our Holy Church were two, And for its Int'rest stands the third as true: Those, forc'd by Fate, long since their Breath resign'd,

But this remains for greater Things design'd.

Lewis may boast of all, but still must say,

The last has most promoted Gallick Sway;

Who at a Neighbouring Court's a Favourite grown,

Yet saves this State, whilst he betrays his own.

In desperate Revenge we make no doubt He'll give the Northern Heresy a Rout; And as 'twas hurry'd in, he'll hurry't out.

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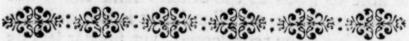
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Written Extempore under one of the Examiners, which was by way of Answer to the Discourse of Free-Thinking.

SINCE now Dr. S----t

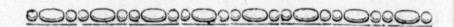
Has thus made a shift,

To give the Free-Thinker a Rub;

Let him write a Sheet more,

Or if he pleases a Score,

And answer the Tale of a Tub.



SIR,

IT having been the Business, for a considerable Time last past, of Abel, O---th and Dean S----t to caluminate one of the greatest Genius's as well as honest Men this Age has afforded, I shall think you will not fairly clear yourself from being of the same villanous Faction, unless you do, in your next Paper, acquaint all Gentlemen, Ladies and others of Taste,

Tafte, that there is lately sprung up out of the Earth the finest Polianto in the World, to which I myself, with a great deal of Ceremony, have given the Name of the Captain Steele; and is to be seen at Mrs. Eager's an eminent Florist at the Star and Garter in Greenwich; it is adorn'd with the most beautiful Colours that ever Eyes The Gardens will begin to be open beheld. on Thursday next, where may be admitted Perfons of all Ranks, Qualities and Conditions, fuch only excepted as lately made up the Number two Hundred, and --- who are strictly forbidden Entrance, left they whom the Laws of the Land have restrain'd from hurting the Perfon of that Great Man abovementioned, should be tempted to revenge themselves even on a Flower that bears his Name. Mrs. Eager assures me, that though she is pretty ancient, she has very good Skill in Phisiognomy, and dosn't doubt but there will appear fomething fo remarkable in the Faces of those who are Enemies to their Country, that by the help of her Spectacles she shall be easily able to distinguish them; and therefore I would advise such as think to come incog. to take care they be not fent back with a Flea in their Ear, or rather a Broom in their A---. I question not I shall be,

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Faacof afte, Your most Obliged

Humble Servant.



SIR,

June 5. 1714.

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If there be two Men in this Nation who are known Enemies to it, I see no Reason why such as are the Reverse of that Character, should be afraid of pointing them out, be they in never so high Stations, even in the same manner as they would, were so many wild Beasts to appear in our Streets: Wherefore I have sent you the following Epigram, persuading myself that this Consideration will have Force enough with you to publish it, especially when I add, that the Thought on which it is sounded may afford Matter of Consolation to many an honest Man, as it has alteredy to

Your Humble Servant;

HENRY HOPEWELL.

On O----ke.

EPIGRAM.

NOW Britain trembles at her coming Fate, And Satan's Reign with theirs will bear its Date:

Yet let not Virtue's Friends at this repine,
Just Heaven can at once too cut their Line:
They may remember Man had ne'er been sav'd,
Had not a * Pilate and a Judas rav'd.

^{*} Falling into Despair, he slew himself with his own Hands, Eutrop. lib. 3. and Euseb. lib. 2. cap. 7.

SIR,

April 27. 1714. SIR,

T being well known that there are a considerable Number of Malecontents in this Nation, who go under the Denomination of Whigs, and are now become famous for their Fears and Jealousies; I thought fit to use my Endeavour in convincing them they are all groundless, and without the least Reason; which I have chosen to do in the ludicrous way of Ballad. If you agree with me in this, I would defire you to assure them moreover, that they have been as much mistaken in many other Things; and that, contrary to the Notion generally received amongst 'em, the Crow is white, the Clergy are all honest, the Sun does not shine at Noon-day, Mr. Steele is not able to write two Lines of Sense, Paul's Church is made of Pancakes, the Q--n can have no ill Advisers about her, &c. However, I would advise you to bring as strong Arguments as possible of these plain Truths, because the Woigs are naturally, you know, a stubborn fort of People, and not so ready to believe what a Man fays, as I hope you will when I tell you that I am,

Your hearty Well-wisher,

and Humble Servant,

SAM. SLY.

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The BALLAD.

T.

Y E clamorous Whigs, what makes you un-

Whilst our gracious Queen Anne's on the Throne,

Who has told you so often (one would think that should please ye)

The Good of her People's her own.

II.

What need you to fear, fince she (Heav'ns love her)

What's next to her Heart has affur'd ye,

Is the Protestant Succession in the House of Hanover,

How can you have better Secur'ty?

III.

Her Ministry are for our Good too most zealous, And in serving their Country take Pleasure: Nay, who of its Sasety can ever be jealous Whilst Sir Anthony handles its Treasure?

IV.

'Twas happy for us our Q---n faw it fitting
The old Lovers of War to displace, Sir;
And, dissolving the Senate that then was a sitting,
Call one who for Peace made more haste, Sir.

[11]

V.

Bad was our Condition before, 'tis most plain, When the Marshals of France were so hardy, As to beat our poor G-l in ev'ry Campaign, Who fo oft of Misconduct was tardy:

Yet a Peace now we've got, not only to please Us, But eke our trusty Allies, Sir,

Which of a LandWar most expensive will ease us, And many great Burthens besides, Sir.

VII.

Now Trading will flourish and Tradesmen grow rich,

For the South-Sea will do it depend on't; Or else Arthur M---- is a Son of a B----, Who makes us believe there's no End on't.

VIII.

As for Commerce with France, tho' some offer to flow

It was ne'er advantagious before;

Yet * Daniel will tell you now it needs must be fo.

For the Reasons that he has in store.

Sir.

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^{*} De Foe, the suppos'd Author of the Mercator.

IX.

What a pother you make about Dunkirk in vain,

When to destroy it Sieur Tugghe says is Pity: Yet because it was promis'd, you must needs be in Pain

Till 'tis done; is not this very pretty?

X.

And who'll fay there's danger of a Popish Successor,

Or that J---s will e'er sit on the Throne, When Abel and O---th do weekly profess, Sir, (By their Master's Direction) there's none.

XI.

For tho' our Friend Lewis shou'd take an Occa-

To back him with Thousands of Men; Our Fleet being ready, we'd stop the Invasion, And soon send him homewards agen.

XII.

That the Church is now prosperous, you cannot but see,

Since none are thought worthy of Gifts, Sir, But such solid Divines as all will agree,

Are the pious S----l and S----t, Sir.

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XIII.

For shame then leave grumbling, and learn, tho' be late

This Truth, and believe it from me,
What tends to the Good both of Church and of
State,

Our Rulers know better than we.

ASSOCIATION ASSOCI

A SONG.

WHEN 'twas whisper'd about By Squire and Lout,

That the Queen was now dead for a certain;

Each black Man of G--
With a Shrug and a Nod

Cry'd, I wish then there may be no Perkin.

Then in Droves we did meet
Them in every Street,
As to traiterous C---d's they hasten'd;
Where an Hour they spent,
Then gave their Consent,
That on Jemmy the Crown should be fasten'd.

But when they had heard,
And it plainly appear'd,
That King GEORGE was proclaim'd by Confent, Sir,
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XIII.

[14]

They turn'd up their Eyes In a deadly Surprize!

Aud I thought some their Gowns would have rent, Sir.

Now thinking it fitting
To have t'other Meeting,
They came to the Place as aforesaid;
Where their Minds they did utter
As plain's they could stutter;
Then thus they conclude, and no more said.

- " Since Fate will fo have it
- " And we can't outbrave it,
- " Let's be sure to throw off Dejection;
 - " For else the Phanaticks,
 - " Like the rest of their fad Tricks,
- " Will certainly cast a Resection.



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SIR, OEtob. 30. 1714.

IS Matter of Wonder to me, that after Men have had Time to think, and their Passions room to cool, there should still be any so incorrigible as to meet about in Clubs, drinking a Health to that despicable Tool Sacheverel; but that there are fuch as do it, even till they are unable to go from the Place, I have lately been made to know by an ocular Demonstration: And what rais'd my Spleen the more, was to hear the same Wretches so impudent as to infinuate vile Reflections against a King, who has already given these Nations a more glorious Prospect than ever they have had fince the Reformation. What feems as yet to give these Villains the greatest Uneafiness is, the hasty Change of the Ministry; when 'tis certain that none but a mere Fool, or one as drunk as themselves, would think it any more possible to drive a parcel of Thieves out of his House too fast, than it was for me to leave fuch bad Company too foon: I no fooner did leave 'em, but wrote the following Epigram; and because I had not then an Opportunity to paste it up in their drunken Club Room, I now desire you to place it in your fober Paper, which will equally answer the End of

Your most Humble Servant,

MISOMETHES.

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EPIGRAM.

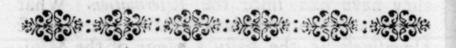
BEhold the Bigots, in blind Zeal alone, Drink the Priest's Health, till they impair their own;

And whilst they would themselves true Churchmen shew,

They lose their Reason and Religion too:

Thus will their Guide (to great Ambition prone)

Allow no Party Christians but his own; When want of Charity declares him none.



SIR, Nov. 13. 1714.

ret Pleasure that I behold the late Managers so unluckily fall out amongst themselves, and endeavour alternatively to lay the Cause of the Male Administration on each other; since by it they all acknowledge there were unjustifiable Things transacted during the sour last Years Reign. This the honest Part of the Nation had been very sensible of a long time since, for which, and their endeavouring to make others so too, they were stigmatized by the Faction, as the worst of Villains. The Author of the History of the White Staff, which is supposed to be written by the Staff's own Direction,

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en, Ction, tells the World, That there were black and borrid Defigns form'd against the Protestant Succesfion; but throws them all upon the Mitre, the Purfe, &c. making his Patron to have all the while, the Innocence of the Dove, as well as the Wildom of the Serpent: I could cite Passages to this Purpose, out of that Piece, but shall omit to do it, because, if I mistake not, you have taken Notice of the most material Ones already. But now out comes the History of the Mitre and the Purse, publish'd, to be fure, not without the Confent of the B-p of R--- r, and the late Lord C--r; and this pretends to explode the Sophistry and Villanies contained in the former History, and returns all the Dirt thrown at the Lawyer and the Divine, upon the Back of the poor harmless Staff. In Page 62, this Author fays, " Hence it was " that the Lord John Bull, and the Purse, who " had some time before begun to stagger in " their Opinion of the Staff, abated in their " Familiarity, and acted with something of a " Reserve towards that great Affair: For not-" withstanding they had in a great Measure " concurr'd with his Endeavours to bring a-" bout a Peace, they were for maintaining it a " more noble Way, than by fetting the Ho-" nour and Interest of their Country to Pub-" liek Sale, as was clearly feen to be done in " this Conjuncture. For the Staff had by his " Agent Atty Brogue, who had cross'd the Wa-" ter several Times before the Articles were a-" greed on that were to be Preliminary to " the Peace, so given up the Trade of his " Country to France, that the Terms upon

" which the future good Understanding be-" tween the two Nations were founded, " feem'd rather to be given to us by our Ene-" mies, as if they had conquer'd us, and not " we them." And, in Page 63, "Yet notwith-" standing these manifest Acts of Treachery which the Staff had been clandestinly guilty " of, they chose rather, in Consideration of " their past Intimacy, to exposulate with him, " and draw him off from the Precipice he was " leading the Nation to, than to break with " him, in hopes to recover him from the dan-" gerous Steps he had taken, and to make " him go over his Ground again with more " Honesty and Caution." I profess when I had read these Lines, I could not forbear smiling, and presently call'd to Mind the following Incident of my own Life. A pretty many Years fince, whilft I was a School-Boy, I happened, with feveral others, to be guilty of some Misdemeanour, which our Master at length came, I know not how, to be inform'd of; and upon Examination we begun (as 'tis natural, I find, for Accomplices in Mischief to do) to lay the Blame one upon the other; but he finding us thus beginning to prevaricate, and perceiving by that that we were all guilty, enquired no farther into the Matter, but immediately caused each to hold up the other, till we had equally undergone the Discipline of the Rod, according to the Demerits of our Crime I have oftentimes fince intircly approv'd of my Master's Conduct in this Affair ; but lest a private Instance may not be sufficient to make the Criminals I was speaking of, think they have not

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not Justice done 'em if they meet with the like Treatment, I will put them in mind of a more publick one of this Nature, which happen'd in the Reign of Richard II. This weak Prince, as he was prevail'd upon by his fawning Favourites, to do many Things destructive to the Liberties of his Subjects, and contrary to his Coronation Oath, so amongst the rest, he drew up several Articles or Queries, by which (as my Author fays) the Parliament were made Traytors, and the Statute Law the Treason, and got the Judges to subscribe to them all as Legal; which when they had done, they hop'd to excuse themselves hereafter of, as being driven to it by the Importunities of prime Ministers. But sometime afterwards the King began to come to himself a little, and call'd a Parliament, which proved a very good one, and therefore consequently enquired into the former Miscarriage, caus'd the Judges to be fent to the Tower, and fummon'd the Earl of Oxford, and the rest of the Villains; but they not appearing, Articles were exhibited against them, and they were condemn'd to perpetual Imprisonment, and all their Effects confiscated to the Government. Soon after, all that did not fly into other Countries for Refuge, were executed without Exception. This Parliament was called the Wonder-working Parliament. And now methinks I know not how to conclude my Letter, without begging all my honest Countrymen to use their utmost Diligence in order to chuse a House of Commons to which we may justly give the same Appellation; and then I D 2 make

[28]

make no question but we shall be much more happy than they were at that Time, because we have now a King upon the Throne, who has all the good Qualifications which that most unfortunate One wanted. I am,

SIR,

Your most humble Servant.

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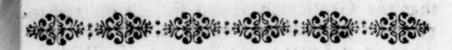
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SIR,



Grays-Inn, Feb. 19. 1714-15.

SIR.

CInce you have, upon several iOccasions, deof fervedly exposed the Scaramouches about Town, I shall acquaint you with a Case relating to a very celebrated one in the Country, viz. old Hirarcha. This wife Man, who indeed lives reverse to the East, having been fo long and indefatigably employ'd in the Interest of the Quacks in opposition to the Regulars, that his Feet feem to be now well nigh sliding into the Grave, does not yet think fit to leave off, but on all Opportunities will be still stirring his Stumps, and gogling his Eyes in that Service, tho' the latter feem to be almost dropping out of their Places with having been so often strain'd into the angry Stare. He was one Sunday holding-forth to a poor ignorant Congregation, in his usual Manner, cursing his Fellow-Creatures to the Pit of Hell, when happen'd to be there (it being in the last long Vacation) a young Gentleman that lives in Town, and belongs to the Law, who not ing used to such fort of Preaching, took an occasion to write him a modest Letter, which he thought deserv'd an Answer; but instead thereof, the old Quack abused the Writer, and endeavoured to fet the whole Country against him, by infinuating that he had wrote nothing but a parcel of impudent Nonfense.

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fense. This had its design'd Effect so sar, that the Gentleman found himself obliged to print his Justification, which is just now published in a Letter to the Reverend Mr. Bridges, Rector of Crosscombe, in Somersetshire, occafloned by a Sermon preach'd at that Place by Mr. H---, Archdeacon of W---s, &c. I have read the Letter, and think he has so well manag'd this High-Church Parson, that I could no more forbear recommending the fame to you, than I can help desiring you to do fo to others; being very much of the Opinion, that if all the Scaramouches were ferved the same Sauce, there would not be so many of them as there are, or at least, they would not be capable of doing so much Mischief. I am,

SIR,

Your humble Servant,



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On seeing the Rebel-Prisoners make their Publick Entry, Decemb. 10. 1715.

WHEN wish'd-for GEORGE appear'd in Albion's Isle,

Her blest Inhabitants began to smile; Forgot their former Wrongs, and hop'd to see

Their Foes in Fetters, and themselves made free:

The Sight was fweet. Behold a better here!

That gave but Hope, This quite destroys our

Fear.

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